



From the Office of the Senior Pastor
Bishop W. James Thomas, II, D. Min.

BISHOP'S MISSIVE #197
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Greetings, CBC Family & Friends,

On this eve of a new year, I send this missive with a deep sense of pastoral responsibility and spiritual expectation. I believe the Lord has spoken clearly concerning this season before us. The year 2026 has been appointed as The Year of Consecration.

The Word of the Lord declares in Joshua 3:5 (ESV), “Then Joshua said to the people, ‘Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.’” God willing, I hope to share more about this text with you at our New Year’s Eve Worship Service.

In a time when distractions are many and our devotion is often divided, the Spirit of the Lord is calling His people back to a sacred focus. This year will require us to examine our hearts, our habits, our priorities, and our calling. It will require us to take another look at our intentionality in prayer, worship, our time, our fellowship, and our personal walk with God. It will require repentance where compromise has crept in and renewal where our passion has “cooled off.” Let me be clear, this season of consecration is not intended to be burdensome as much as it is preparation. God does not call us to consecration without intention to release His glory.

We are beginning this year with intentional prayer and fasting, not as a religious exercise, but as a corporate act of submission. This time is designed to set the spiritual tone for the year, sharpening our spiritual sensitivity and aligning us with the will of God. Fasting can be challenging with all of the “noise” around us, but the fruit will be undeniable.

My challenge to you is to lean in, be attentive, and respond to the leading of the Holy Ghost. Expect God to deal with you personally, speak to you clearly, and position you strategically. My prayer is that, by the end of this year, we will not just talk about the services we had and the fast we finished, but we will testify that we are not the same church! We are more prayerful, our worship more sincere, our praise more intense, our love more evident, and our witness more powerful.

I am honored to walk with you into this sacred season. Let us consecrate ourselves together, confident that the Lord who calls us is faithful—and that He will indeed do wonders among us.

With pastoral love and expectation,

 *W. James Thomas, II*

Bishop W. James Thomas, II, D.Min., Senior Pastor



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www.calvaryforward.org

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 1859 | Dover, DE 19903

Downtown Campus (Administrative Services & Outreach): 410 Fulton Street | Dover, DE 19904

West Dover Campus (Worship Center): 2285 Forrest Avenue | Dover, DE 19904

Office (302) 736-6554 | Fax (302) 734-7790 | info@calvaryforward.org